

and service of ADM Charles R. Larson. Admiral Larson passed away on July 26, 2014, in his Annapolis, MD, home. He leaves behind his beloved wife of 52 years, Sally, three loving daughters, and seven grandchildren.

Throughout his 40 years of service, Admiral Larson exemplified the ideals of a devoted public servant. After he graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1958, he served tours of duty aboard the aircraft carrier USS *Shangri-la* as an aviator and he served as a submariner on board the nuclear submarines USS *Nathan Hale*, USS *Nathaniel Green*, and USS *Bergal*. After serving as Special Assistant to the Secretary of the Interior and naval aide to the President of the United States, he returned to sea duty aboard the USS *Sculpin*. In 1990 Admiral Larson was promoted to the rank of four-star admiral. One year later, he assumed duties as commander in chief, U.S. Pacific Command.

Admiral Larson's career was marked with many notable accomplishments. His naval service as both an aviator and a submariner was unique and admired. In 1979, at the age of 43, he became the second-youngest admiral in the history of the U.S. Navy. Admiral Larson's service is also unique in that he served as both the 51st and 55th superintendent of the U.S. Naval Academy. Larson's second appointment as superintendent, while unusual, was something that the Navy desperately needed. Prior to his second tour of duty as superintendent, the Naval Academy was rocked by a cheating scandal. Admiral Larson was brought in to restore honor and integrity to his alma mater. The task was not an easy one, but he accomplished his mission by pursuing two goals that he outlined when he took the job: "No. 1: to develop character. No. 2: to prove the worth of the service academies to the people of the United States". By the time his second tour as superintendent was over, Admiral Larson had succeeded in restoring the Naval Academy's reputation as one of America's premier educational and military institutions.

In closing, when I think of ADM Larson, I am reminded of a quote from another famous Admiral, ADM Leighton Smith: "The United States Navy is the envy of every other navy in the world. They don't want to be like us—they want to be us."

I believe this quote is true because of the outstanding devotion and competence of those who serve in our Navy. Ships and weapons systems are of little value if the service men and women operating them are not the very best. Admiral Larson understood this, and his service helped the Navy produce other exceptional leaders who have bravely defended and immeasurably enriched our Nation. Few could ask for a more honorable legacy.

I believe that Admiral Larson's legacy is one of duty, honor, and a sincere devotion to serving and improving the Navy he loved. I ask that all Members

of the Senate join me in remembering this extraordinary man and his admirable years of service to our Nation.●

MESKWAKI TRIBAL POWWOW CENTENNIAL

● Mr. HARKIN. Madam President, from August 7 through August 10 the Meskwaki will be celebrating the 100th anniversary of their tribal powwow, and I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate them on this occasion. This is a unique event held annually on the only Indian settlement in the State of Iowa. During this celebration the tribe members celebrate and perform dances that have been handed down for generations. It is a time of reaffirmation and hope and a time of friendship.

The Annual Meskwaki Powwow originated from the traditional religious and social beliefs of the Meskwaki Tribe. This annual event is derived from the "Green Corn Dance" which originally took place during the harvesting of the crops. From 1902 to 1912, the tribe held the "Field Days" which would last for the week, with dancing, games, and horse racing. And then in 1912, the tribe made the decision to change the name from "Field Days" to "Powwow". This historic celebration continues to be held at the original location.

I would like to congratulate the Meskwaki on this joyous occasion and hope they will continue to celebrate their powwow for many more years to come.●

MAGIC VALLEY VETERANS AND HOSPICE VISIONS

● Mr. CRAPO. Madam President, I wish to pay special tribute to the outstanding service of veterans living in the Magic Valley of Idaho and thank Heidi Walker and all the staff with Hospice Visions for the work they do on behalf of veterans in the Magic Valley.

Hospice Visions has chosen to honor 12 veterans this year in a veterans recognition ceremony hosted by Genesis Healthcare at their Twin Falls Center. Veterans from the River Ridge, Twin Falls and Bennett Hills facilities are among those being recognized. This year's honorees are: Dennis Asmussen, who served in the Navy in Vietnam; Bill Benedict, who served in the Army during World War II; Jon Hindes, who served in the Army in Korea and Vietnam; Levi Hussey, who served in the Marines in World War II; Benjamin Lebaron, who served in the Navy during World War II; Jay Richards, who served in the Army during the Cold War; Byron J. Rowland, who served in the Navy during World War II; Rex Shirts, who served in the Navy during World War II; Vernon Skeen, who served in the Army during World War II; Gary Winder, who served in the Army in Vietnam; Vern Winnill, who served in the Air Force in World War II; and

Marion Wood, who served in the Army in World War II. These veterans are being honored for their service to our Nation. Joining in paying tribute to these extraordinary Americans is a honor.

Occurrences such as this remind us of the many veterans who are such important parts of our communities. Our freedoms are preserved because of their selfless service. They not only gave all for our country, but also they continue to uplift our communities and other generations of returning veterans and their families. Thank you also to the families of those who serve our country. You make sacrifices every day in supporting your loved ones who served in the Armed Forces.

The ceremony also provides an opportunity to recognize the remarkable work of Heidi Walker and the staff and administrators of Hospice Visions for their dedication to assisting our Nation's heroes. I have the honor of presenting Heidi Walker and Hospice Visions with a Spirit of Idaho Award for going above and beyond in serving the Magic Valley's aging, ill, and homebound veterans. Your commitment to the men and women who have served and your work to ensure they receive recognition for their service are commendable. I understand Hospice Visions is a participant in the We Honor Veterans Program, a partnership between the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization and the Department of Veterans Affairs to better serve veteran patients in hospice-like facilities. Heidi and Hospice Visions have given quality care to our Nation's veterans and have been a great support to their families.

Thank you to the veterans of the Magic Valley for your service and to Heidi Walker and all those at Hospice Visions for your exemplary dedication to veterans and their families. We are blessed to have you as part of the community.●

TRIBUTE TO RICHARD STRUCKHOFF

● Mr. BLUNT. Madam President, I wish to pay tribute to Richard Struckhoff, the county clerk of Greene County, MO. He has been a quiet, tireless and efficient servant to the citizens of my home county for a record 27 years. He was appointed when Ronald Reagan was President and John Ashcroft was Governor. Then Governor Ashcroft wisely chose Struckhoff for the position he still holds today. Richard was on the staff of another member of this body, U.S. Senator John Danforth, serving in the Senate district office in Springfield, MO.

I met Richard when I was the Greene County clerk and he was a news reporter for KWTO Radio in Springfield. Richard, with his trademark beard, was then as he is today—easy to work with, soft-spoken, insightful and a keen student of local politics. Struckhoff was part of a pack of journalists who visited my office every day looking for

nuggets of public interest and features about elections and county news. He won awards for his public affairs broadcasts at KWTO. Later he went to work for Senator Danforth, and in 1987 when the Greene County clerk resigned, he was appointed. Richard says Danforth was a role model with his principled leadership, openness to many viewpoints, and a devotion to his religious faith, all of which had an impact on Struckhoff's decision to seek elective office.

During his 27 years as clerk, he has seen a host of changes, but none more dramatic than the implementation of the Help America Vote Act after the 2000 presidential election. As the chief election official in Greene County, Struckhoff guided the effort to switch from more than 20 years of punch-card voting to computerized scanner machines and a statewide voter registration system. Struckhoff's small cadre of staff has overseen elections, voter registration and education, tax law, licenses, and county archives. He is seen as a role model by his colleagues, pursuing public service in place of partisan politics. Other community leaders have praised his hard work, collaboration, and good humor. That in itself is a remarkable record.

Struckhoff has been married to Micki for more than 40 years, and they have three children and a host of grandchildren. Richard spends his free time between elections on the road, seeing grandkids, singing in the band, the "Geezers," or playing music at church. In more recent months, Richard and Micki have begun traveling to shooting competitions in various locations, and they have both become good shots.

Richard is also a man of faith—deeply involved at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in the music program. He was born in St. Louis in 1952, came to Springfield in the late 1970s and graduated Missouri State University in 1988. We have been blessed by his leadership ever since.

Family, faith, music and guns: is there any doubt why we like to be around Richard Struckhoff? He is a funny guy with a charming smile and a quick wit. He is a true public servant and my friend. I know he won't be looking for things to do in retirement. His plate is full with grandkids to mold, songs to sing and guns to shoot. We have Richard Struckhoff to thank for more than 27 years of fair elections in Greene County. I hope retirement brings many rewards to Richard and his family.●

BOULDER STATION HOTEL AND CASINO

● Mr. HELLER. Madam President, I wish to recognize and congratulate Boulder Station Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas on 20 years of business and excellence. Boulder Station's dedication to providing quality service and bettering its community is commend-

able, and I am proud to recognize it here today.

Since its grand opening on August, 23, 1994, Boulder Station has been an integral part of the Las Vegas community. Boulder Station not only contributes to the Nevada economy by bringing tourists to our great State, but it also serves as a large employer of residents of Las Vegas, currently employing 1,115 Nevadans, some of whom have worked for the property since its opening day. The Boulder Station team members strive to make the entire staff feel like a family. Their level of corporate care and devotion is demonstrated through their exemplary guest service and generosity to local philanthropic causes. They believe it is both a privilege and responsibility to help build and maintain a happy and healthy community, and by giving back they strive to assist others who may simply need a helping hand.

Boulder Station has worked to help improve education in Southern Nevada as well. For 13 years, the property has partnered with Laura Dearing Elementary, an at-risk elementary school, as part of the Smart Start Program. The partnership program has five components: the school receives an annual award; a student incentive program is set up to improve an area of need; the company sponsors a recognition program for teachers and staff; team members from the Boulder Station volunteer their time to help with school events and support teachers in the classrooms; and the casino donates surplus computers and computer equipment to the partner schools. Boulder Station's commitment to bettering the community's local educational system is admirable, and I am proud Nevada is home to a business that has taken such an active role in helping our youth.

The gaming industry plays an integral role in Nevada's economy. Casinos have also generated over 100,000 jobs for Nevadans and continue to be one of the largest employers in the State. Plain and simple, the tourism and hospitality industry is the lifeblood for businesses and job creation in Nevada.

I ask my colleagues and all of my fellow Nevadans to join me in recognizing Boulder Station Hotel and Casino on 20 years of business and dedication to the Las Vegas community.●

LANDAFF, NEW HAMPSHIRE 250TH ANNIVERSARY

● Ms. AYOTTE. Madam President, I wish to honor the town of Landaff, New Hampshire, which is celebrating the 250th anniversary of its founding next month. I am proud to join citizens across the Granite State in recognizing this special milestone.

Landaff, a town in Grafton County, lies fully within the Connecticut River watershed, with the Ammonoosuc River to the northwest and the Wild Ammonoosuc River to the south. The southern half of the town is part of the magnificent White Mountain National Forest.

The town of Landaff has a rich history. It is named after the Bishop of Llandaff, chaplain to King George III. After the town's first 60 settlers failed to meet the requirements of the King's original grant, the territory was re-granted to Dartmouth College in 1770.

The college contributed to the town's development by building roads, a school and a saw mill. In 1773, however, the original owners desired a return of their land and petitioned the Governor to revoke the Dartmouth grant. The issue of the ownership of Landaff was drawn out in the courts for the next 17 years. When the American Revolution concluded, changes in the American legal system prompted the college to give the town back to the people.

Today, Landaff's population remains around 360, with the patriotism and commitment of its residents reflected in part by their longstanding record of service in defense of our Nation.

One distinguished Landaff resident, Harry Chandler, was born in Landaff in 1864 and moved to Los Angeles, CA. Mr. Chandler eventually became the editor of the Los Angeles Times, but he never forgot the little town that raised him. He was said to have offered a job at the newspaper to anyone from Landaff who showed up at his door.

Resident sage of Landaff, Moor Noyes, once made this observation about the history of the town: "Things ain't now as they use to was been and people don't do as they use to did then." Truer words have never been spoken.

Landaff has contributed much to the culture and spirit of the State of New Hampshire. I am pleased to extend my warmest regards to the people of Landaff as they celebrate the town's 250th anniversary.●

NEW HAMPSHIRE DAY TO END CHILDHOOD HOMELESSNESS

● Mrs. SHAHEEN. Madam President, today I wish to recognize the New Hampshire Day to End Childhood Homelessness. On September 4, 2014, Families in Transition, a Manchester-based nonprofit organization that has long committed itself to ending the cycle of homelessness, will be hosting this important event.

Founded in 1991, Families in Transition was born from the belief that having a home is a basic human right. The organization has since been recognized, both statewide and nationally, for its effectiveness in ending homelessness through quality, affordable housing and comprehensive services. Families in Transition focuses on addressing homelessness by facilitating familial cohesion through specialized childcare, family therapy, and positive social activities. Family and youth services at Families in Transition are a vital part of efforts to help homeless children in New Hampshire.

The New Hampshire Day to End Childhood Homelessness event will bring critical awareness and support to